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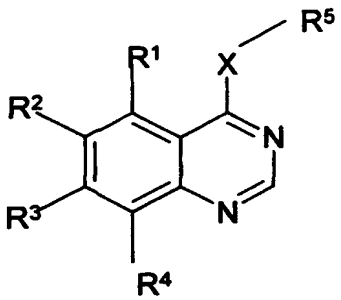

(I)

(57) Abstract: A compound of formula (I) or a salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof; where X is O, or S, S(O), $S(O)_2$ or NR^6 where R^6 is hydrogen of C_{1-6}alkyl; R^5 is an optionally substituted 6-membered aromatic ring containing at least one nitrogen atom, and R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 are independently selected from halogeno, cyano, nitro, C_{1-3}alkylsulphanyl, $-N(OH)R^7$-(wherein R^7 is hydrogen, or C_{1-3}alkyl), or R^9X^1-(wherein X^1represents a direct bond, -O-, $-CH_2$-, -OC(O), -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2$-, $-NR^{10}C(O)$-, $-C(O)NR^{11}$-, $-SO_2NR^{12}$-, $-NR^{13}SO_2$- or NR^{14}-(wherein R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13} and R^{14} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl), and R^9 is hydrogen, optionally substituted hydrocarbyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyl or optionally substituted alkoxy; provided that at least one of R^2 or R^3 is other than hydrogen. These compounds inhibit aurora 2 kinase and are useful in the preparation of medicaments for the treatment of proliferative disease such as cancer.

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